

Remarks/Arguments

This Amendment has been prepared in response to the Office Action dated July 10, 2008 regarding the above-identified patent application.

In that Action, the Examiner (a) maintained her indication of allowability of claim 6, (b) withdrew her indication of allowability of earlier-presented claim 5 (resulting in her rejection of recently amended claim 2), (c) rejected claims 1 and 2 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,848,512, and (d) rejected claims 3 and 4 as being unpatentable over this same patent reference.

While applicant disagrees with the Examiner's current rejection of claim 2 (previously indicated-to-be-allowable claim 5), in order to minimize additional expenditure with respect to continuing the prosecution of this patent application, applicant (a) respectfully proposes herein a re-writing of claim 2 to include, effectively, all of the limitations of claim 6, (b) proposes cancellation of claim 6 without prejudice, and (c) retains claims 3 and 4 as previously presented claims.

No new matter has been entered in relation to the presentation of the present Amendment.

Accordingly, with entry of the present Amendment, all claims remaining in this application, on the basis of entry of the Amendment, are clearly in conditions for immediate allowance. For this reason, applicant respectfully requests the early issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the amendment or remarks, the Examiner is invited to contact Attorney-of-Record Jon M. Dickinson, Esq., at 503-504-2271.

Provisional Request for Extension of time in Which to Respond

Should this response be deemed to be untimely, Applicants hereby request an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any over-payment to Account No. 22-0258.

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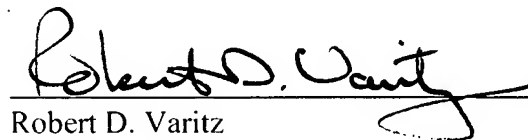
Respectfully Submitted,

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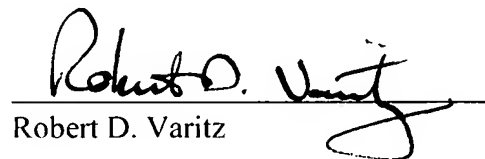
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Date of Deposit - August 28, 2008

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I hereby certify that the attached Response to Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Washington, D.C. 22313-1450



Robert D. Varitz